

*Shago*

(79-17) *28007*  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE

R-5

Lat 39.93777 Lon -120.94102

REPLY TO: 3430 FIDM Evaluation

June 14, 1979

SUBJECT: Insect Evaluation

TO: Forest Supervisor, Plumas NF

*100 acres*



In response to a telephone request from Conrad Nussbaumer, John Pierce inspected marking of a salvage sale in true fir with Conrad on May 24, 1979.

The particular problem investigated was how much recent top kill in fir could reasonably indicate the tree might soon die and, therefore, should be marked for immediate salvage. This is primarily a question concerning whether top killing has stopped in an individual tree or it is likely to continue - a difficult question since the tops of trees can not easily be inspected before felling. Therefore, four trees were cut for further examination. In two of these trees it was found that the fir engraver had continued to invade the green bole below the dead portion and in two trees they had not done this.

From this examination it was rationalized that the marking rule in use was reasonable, i.e., seriously top killed trees should be salvaged. Some borderline trees should occasionally be felled for further examination and guidance. Soon a new generation of fir engraver beetles will be flying and attacking trees so the situation is dynamic and ever changing. Examining felled trees is the best method to stay abreast of the current condition.

*for* *Paul A. Freeman, Jr.*  
NILFRED L. FREEMAN, JR., Director  
Forest Insect and Disease Management